

NEWS RELEASE

**Wilfrid Laurier
University**



Students and administrators meet to discuss the future of universities

Privatization, funding and student debt to be addressed at university issues luncheon at Laurier

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WATERLOO – Student leaders and administrators from Waterloo's two universities will meet to discuss the value of public education in Canada, the role of government and private corporations in education, and the impact of student debt on the economy at a university issues luncheon in the Paul Martin Centre on Wednesday at 12:30 p.m.

Among the topics for discussion are the privatization of universities and colleges, the role of Canadian education in the global village, funding for institutions and economic support for students in light of government budget surpluses, and the growing inaccessibility of education.

Hosted by the Wilfrid Laurier University Graduate Students' Association (WLUGSA), the event is intended to raise awareness during a federal, student-organized campaign.

"Students across the province and across the country will be demonstrating and bringing attention to issues like university funding and increasing tuition fees," says Kevin Black, WLUGSA vice-president: external affairs and the event organizer. "This event is really the best way to reach students and to open a dialogue with university administrators on these issues."

A full house is expected for the meeting, which will be attended by Laurier president Robert Rosehart, University of Waterloo registrar Ken Lavigne and a representative from federal MP Andrew Telegdi's office. After the discussion panel members will field audience questions.